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Minutes

Board of Building Regulations and Standards

Fire Prevention Fire Protection (FPFP) Advisory Committee

**RJA, Inc. - 1661 Worcester Road – Suite 501, Framingham, MA - Conference Room
September 16, 2014, 9:00 a.m.**

1. Roll Call

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| a. Robert Carasitti Chair (RC) | ✓ present <input type="checkbox"/> absent | g. Chief Gary McCarraher (GM) | ✓ present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| b. Dave LeBlanc V-Chair (DL) | ✓ present <input type="checkbox"/> absent | h. Boston Fire Commissioner | ✓ present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| | Part-Time | Paul Donga for BFD (PD) Part-Time | |
| c. Walter Adams (WA) | ✓ present <input type="checkbox"/> absent | i. State Fire Marshal (or designee) | ✓ present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| d. Don Contois (DC) | <input type="checkbox"/> present ✓ absent | Tim Rodrique for the SFM | |
| e. Harold Cutler (HL) | <input type="checkbox"/> present ✓ absent | j. Kurt Ruchala (KR) | ✓ present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| f. Rob Anderson (RA or designee) | ✓ present <input type="checkbox"/> absent | k. Louise Vera (LV or Alternate) | ✓ present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Mike Guigli for RA (MG) Part-Time | | Jeff Putnam (JP) for LV | |

General note on format: votes are noted as (Motion by, Second by, All) if the vote is unanimous followed by the time.

2. Review and approval of minutes from previous meeting (PD)

The chair noted there were no minutes as the committee had not met in some time. MG briefly commented on Open Meeting Law requirements and the chair identified the website location of meeting notices and subsequent minutes.

3. R-2 Smoke Detection requirements via a BBRS Official Interpretation

The committee reviewed the previously prepared questions and answers #7 & #8 that are included in the revised draft of Official Interpretation 2014_01 (attached and made part of these minutes). I motion was made by Mg and seconded by TR to reaffirm the FPFP's approval of the added language and send it to the BBRS.

Motion: MG 2nd: TR Vote: Unanimous (8-0-0) PD not present for vote

4. Additional Commenting via track change or red line editing of White Paper on fire protection.

RC, MG and TR expressed their understandings of the BBRS' request of the FPFP in terms of reviewing the White Paper. RC noted that it was his understanding that Rob Anderson had clarified at the BBRS that the paper should only address existing construction undergoing renovation or alteration. MG identified that some board members expressed a desire for new construction criteria to also be considered. After some discussion on the applicability of

the white paper to new construction, a motion was made and seconded to request clarification from BBRS on whether the paper is to address new and existing construction or existing construction only.

Motion: KR 2nd: TR Vote: Unanimous (8-0-0) DL not present for vote

The discussion continued relative to identification of when sprinklers and fire alarms are required under Chapter 34. There was some discussion of coordinating with the chapter 34 committee. In the end it was decided that FPPF members need to review the Chapter 34 criteria on their own and then once consensus is developed in the FPPF, the FPPF will reach out the Chapter 34 committee. The discussion of this matter is to be continued at the next FPPF meeting.

5. Comparison of evaluations related to certain fire protection of wood frame elements in residential construction

RC provided a background of the BBRS charge to compare the fire resistance rating aspects of IAMPO Uniform ES EC-017 to the ICC ES AC14. The comparison should identify differences and render an opinion as to the significance of the differences and whether the EC-017 should be accepted as essentially equivalent for the purpose of fire rating criteria.

After discussion of the materials provided by BBRS staff (EC017, AC14 and UER 0305) the committee recognized the need to become more familiar with the basis test criteria of ASTM E119 which both ES criteria reference. The committee in effect continued the matter to the next meeting in order to give members time to review and consider the matter further.

6. Evaluate and comment on code change proposals for exterior walls with foam plastic insulation

RC provided an introduction to the BBRS request for FPPF to review and comment on code change proposals related to exterior walls and the acceptability of criteria that does not require NFPA 285 testing. After some discussion it was clear that some members had concerns over what pertinent information was being provided by the testing method from both a) fires originating in the building, flashing over and breaking out an opening creating exterior fire spread and b) fires originating on the exterior and spreading on the exterior of the walls. It was determined that the members needed to study the issue and the code change proposals in preparation for the next meeting.

7. Matters not reasonably anticipated within two business days of the meeting.

No new business was identified. Jay Fleming offered comments and suggestions on the review of the white paper. He strongly recommended that the committee review and vet the data provided in the paper and that given the cost benefit nature, that economics experts be included in the discussion.

8. Approval to adjourn the meeting

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. A brief discussion on the next meeting date ensued. The next Meeting was set for September 25 at the same location. The motion carried.

Motion: GM 2nd: TR Vote: Unanimous (8-0-0) MG not present for vote